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ATLANTA, GA.—SEPTEMBER 11, 1880.

The Albany News and Advertiser have been merged and consolidated. This will give to Albany a lively paper. The consolidation brings together Mr. Henry McIntosh and Mr. Frank V. Evans, two journalists of experience and reputation. We congratulate all hands on the change.

It appears from disclosures just made that the famous alliance between Germany and Austria was brought about through an attempt of Russia to form a similar alliance with France. The French statesman, Waddington, was too shrewd and far-sighted to listen to Russia's propositions, and the whole matter leaked out. The powers are very distrustful of each other.

The associated press is still giving us news from Vermont, but none from Arkansas, where the fate of an important constitutional amendment is still in doubt. The latest dispatches from Vermont are, however, needed to bring the republican majority down to the truth. Some so-called mistakes had swelled it several thousands. As it stands now neither party has gained or lost any material strength since 1876. If the returns from Vermont show anything, it is that the canvas of 1876 is to be repeated in the northern states.

We give the figures of recent cotton crops, in order that the crop of the past year may be readily compared with those of the previous years:

| | |
|---------|-----------|
| 1875-76 | 5,700,161 |
| 1877-78 | 5,071,155 |
| 1878-79 | 5,071,155 |
| 1879-80 | 4,454,609 |
| 1880-81 | 4,454,609 |
| 1874-75 | 5,875,840 |
| 1875-76 | 5,875,840 |

The crop which has just been summed up in figures was nearly 700,000 bales larger than the one that preceded it. Of course such a rate of increase will not be maintained; but not a few think that the present crop will be 800,000 bales larger than that of the season just closed, and that is a crop of six million bales will become a matter of fact instead of talk.

The speech of Judge Warner to his home people last Tuesday appears to have been a combination of partisan malice and intentional mystification of the law. Among other things, he repeated what he had already said in his letter that the governor can make a contract to give a lawyer a lien on the state's money. The code of Georgia—section 1985—sets forth that such a lien does not depend on contract, but upon the relation of client and attorney. If this relation is established, the lawyer shall have a lien for his services. It is to be borne in mind, however, that Judge Warner does not speak as a judge, nor even as a lawyer, but as a blindly bitter partisan. The Colquitt majority in Meriwether is sold.

The Latest Scheme of the Norwood Party.

We understand that several prominent colored men have been approached since the adjournment of the republican convention upon the subject of supporting Mr. J. C. Freeman, of Griffin, as a republican candidate for governor. This is evidently the latest move on the part of the Norwood campaigners to draw the colored vote away from Governor Colquitt. Mr. Freeman, it will be remembered, was the nominee of the republicans of this district for congress. He was not satisfied with this, however, but wanted to be the republican candidate for governor.

The Norwood campaigners have entreated the distribution of "convict catechism" in southern Georgia to a negro named Perkins. The name is suggestive and faintly nothing in that record for any Georgian to be ashamed of.

Editor Lewis, of Sparta, insists on confounding quotations from Mr. Norwood's rights speech with support of the civil rights bill. There is a good deal of genuine humor mixed up with Editor Lewis' guileless.

Mr. Marshall Jewell, of Atlanta, has announced his intention to go to the seat of government to see if he can get a hearing before the Senate Committee on Slavery and Exploitation.

Mr. Norwood will have no power to abolish the lease system, and they know, moreover, that Governor Colquitt is much more likely to insist upon such changes and improvements in the system as may be readily made by the legislature than Mr. Norwood, whose whole attitude since the war has been of cold-blooded opposition to the prospects and progress of the colored race.

But we, in common with the people of Georgia, would be glad to know what Mr. Norwood proposes to do with the lease system. He and his party declare their purpose to abolish the chain-gang, but this is as far as their political game goes. This is not definite enough to satisfy the public.

Does Mr. Norwood propose to abolish the system without consulting the general assembly, or does he propose to admit the members of the legislature as side-partners in his reform enterprises?

And when he has abolished the system, what does he propose to do? Is crime to be punished in usual, or does Mr. Norwood propose to abolish crime and run a sort of millennium side-show with the Hon. Josiah Warren as door-keeper, and Editor Moore as advance agent?

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